INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

al Application No. PCT/GB2004/003181

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C1201/68 G01N

A61K31/7088

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. RELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 C12Q G01N A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched THE SUCH OX

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, BIOSIS, EMBASE, WPI Data, PAJ, EMBL

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| . conside | at defining the general state of the art which is not clied to understand the principle or the created to be of particular relevance current but published on or after the international clied to understand the principle or the invention comment of particular relevance; the city | he application but ony underlying the almed invention |
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| documer | eans ments, such combination being obvious in the art. If published prior to the international filing date but in the art. In the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent fa | |
| | November 2004 Date of mailing of the international search 08/12/2004 | h report |
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

ional application No. PCT/GB2004/003181

| Box II | Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet) |
|---|---|
| This inter | mational Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons: |
| | |
| t. 🗌 | Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely: |
| • | assessed that it is considered to the about the design by this Additionary, realities. |
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| | |
| . [7] | Claims Nos. 13-18 (all completely) |
| | because they relate to parts of the international Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such |
| | an extent that no meaningful international Search can be carried out, specifically: |
| | see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210 |
| | |
| | 당실 보통하는 것이 보고 있는 하나 사람이 하는 일이 되었다. 그리나 나는 사람이 되었다. |
| 3 📗 | Cielms Nos.: Decause they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a). |
| * * | reduces they are department claims and are not changed in accordance with the second and mild semigrices of Mile 6.4(a). |
| Boy III | Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet) |
| DOX III | observations where dimy or divendon is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sneet) |
| This inter | national Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows: |
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| 1 🗆 | As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international Search Report covers all |
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| 2 🗌 | As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment |
| | of any additional fee. |
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| .a. 🗀 / | As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international Search Report. |
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| ·4· LJ ¦ | lo required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international Search Report is estricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: |
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| | 요즘 등 그는 한 환경 하는 목욕에 가는 걸어가는 걸었다. 그리다 |
| | |
| Remark o | n Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. |
| | |
| | No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees. |
| | オート・プログレス 記録がらまするいました。これは、またないのでは、「でき」 |

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FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 13-18 (all completely)

Present claims 13 and 14 relate to the method of claim 12 further comprising steps of using a "test target protein" for identifying a "test compound" which is useful in the treatment of CAD. Claim 15 relates to the methods of claims 13 and 14 further comprising the step of formulating a test compound into a pharmaceutical composition. The methods of claims 13,14 and 15 are considered to comprise different and irreconcilable types of processes, so that the subject matter for which protection is sought is not clearly defined (Art. 6 PCT). Moreover, due to the fact that neither the "test target protein" of claims 13 and 14 nor the "test compound" of claim 15 are further defined and due to the fact that no specific examples of such "test target protein" or "test compound" are disclosed in the patent specification, a meaningful search for the different processes of claims 13-15 was not possible.

Although claim 16 refers to a method of treatment of the human/animal body a search could have been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound. However due to reasons given below, such search was not possible.

Present claims 16 and 17 relate to a compound wherein the compound is only defined by reference to a desirable characteristic or property, namely a compound being identifiable by a method according to claims 13 and 14. However, this functional feature defining the result to be achieved in connection with an indefinite structural feature, as is the case here, cannot assist in rendering the claim clear, since it still leaves open what exactly the subject-matter is for which patent protection is sought. This lack of clarity in the present case is such as to render a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope impossible. Due to the fact that the patent specification does not disclose any clear examples of such compounds, the lack of clarity (Art. 6 PCT) is such that no search could be carried out for any subject matter covered by claims 16 and 17.

Present claim 18 refers to a method which is only defined by a result to be achieved, namely "identifying other components of the CAD biochemical pathway of which OXTR is a component". The patent specification does not disclose any technical teaching of how to practice such method. Furthermore the term "the CAD biochemical pathway of which OXTR is a component" is considered completely unclear. The method of claim 18 is therefore considered neither clear nor supported (Art. 6 PCT). The lack of clarity and support is such that a meaninful search of the subject matter claimed was not possible.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.